

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE DUNCAN HUNTER – CHAIRMAN

PRESS RELEASE

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Hunter, Sensenbrenner Introduce Agreement Reached Among House, Senate & Bush Administration

Updated Version of Military Commissions Act Establishes Procedures to Try Captured Terrorists; Protects American Troops on the Battlefield

Washington, D.C. --- Yesterday, U.S. House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) and House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-WI) introduced the agreement reached among the House, Senate and Bush Administration to effectively and fairly prosecute terrorists, while also protecting American troops and intelligence agents fighting the Global War on Terror. H.R. 6166, the updated version of the Military Commissions Act of 2006, is the product of weekend negotiations to finalize the agreement reached last week.

Chairman Hunter's statement follows:

"This legislation is the product of thorough negotiations over the weekend among the House, Senate and White House. It reflects our common goals to try terrorists and protect American troops and intelligence agents.

"This agreement creates a full and fair process to prosecute terrorists, while preserving the ability of our warfighters to operate effectively against a new enemy on a new battlefield. Since we started this process, our foremost consideration has been to protect American troops and American citizens from harm.

"The compromise language does that—it creates a fair and effective judicial process that pays special attention to the rules of evidence and includes procedures suitable to the battlefield.

"The government will be able to prosecute its case fully without compromising our intelligence sources. It does not allow terrorists to access classified information that can be used to harm American troops or citizens if released. The prosecutorial process will be fair, swift and conclusive. Terrorists will be able to mount a full defense and will have access to all the evidence that is given to the commission panel."

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